



STATE REPRESENTATIVE

TOM CAMPBELL

(R) 2nd Legislative District



2006 SESSION OF THE LEGISLATURE IS IN FULL SWING

February 2006

*Serving the citizens of Graham,
Spanaway, Roy, McKenna,
Eatonville, Orting, Puyallup's
South Hill, Yelm and Rainier*

OLYMPIA OFFICE:

333 John L. O'Brien Building
Olympia, WA 98504-0600
(360) 786-7912

HOME:

P.O. Box 443
Spanaway, WA 98387

E-MAIL:

campbell.tom@leg.wa.gov

INTERNET:

[http://www.leg.wa.gov/house/
campbell](http://www.leg.wa.gov/house/campbell)

HOUSE COMMITTEE

ASSIGNMENTS:

Health Care *(Vice-Chairman)*
Transportation
Judiciary
Veterans Affairs Committee

Dear Friends:

We're beyond the halfway mark in the 2006 legislative session, and I'm working on a number of issues during this short 60-day session. Topping my list of issues are how we can improve hospital care and dealing with crime and law enforcement in our local communities and statewide.

I am Vice Chair of the House Health Care Committee, which gives me the opportunity to focus on what our citizens need in health care. There are many issues we need to consider to ensure you of the best care the medical profession can provide

The 'even-year' session always must focus on the two-year operating budget that was passed last year. This year we will work to fine-tune the budget to meet current demands and deal with a significant budget surplus.

I hope you will feel free to contact me at any time during this session if you have ideas on how we can improve the services that government provides its citizens. As your state Representative, I am here to deal with issues important to the 2nd District and also help our citizens deal with government agencies.

I thank you for the opportunity to represent you and your interests in the Washington State House of Representatives.

Sincerely

Representative
Tom Campbell

**PLEASE JOIN ME FOR A
TOWN HALL MEETING**

Yelm, Graham, Eatonville

TIMES & LOCATIONS INSIDE

**SATURDAY
Feb. 18**

HOSPITALS NEED TO CLEAN UP THEIR ACT

A very great concern to me is the ongoing problem of **hospital patients who are unknowingly being exposed to a variety of infections**. The cost of hospital-acquired infections is staggering across the nation, and taxpayers and insurance ratepayers end up footing the bill.

I've introduced a measure (House Bill 1015) to require hospitals to face a problem they aren't eager to discuss: hospital-acquired infections. This legislation would require all hospitals to collect data and make reports on how they are working to contain the spread of infections.

Across the country each year, about two-million patients admitted to hospitals become infected with other diseases and ailments solely because of their hospital stay. About 90,000 of these patients die from their infections. I know this first-hand because my father died from a hospital-based infection.

A finding by the state of Pennsylvania – where the provisions of the hospital-acquired infection legislation is now law – determined that Medicare and Medicaid were billed more than \$1 billion in additional charges in 2004; charges that had to be met by taxpayers.

If passed, my bill will require hospitals that provide acute care to collect information about the rates of hospital-acquired infections at their facilities, including surgical site infections, ventilator-associated pneumonia, central line-related bloodstream infections and urinary tract infections.

CONTINUING OUR FOCUS ON CRIMINAL DRUG ENFORCEMENT

Last session, my major anti-methamphetamine bill (HB 2266) became law to restrict over-the-counter sale of products that are essential for the illegal manufacture of meth in our communities.

This session, I'm working on a few other bills to deal with the drug problem.



Rep. Tom Campbell (R-2nd District) confers with Rep. Dawn Morrell (D-25th District), who is co-sponsor of Campbell's bill on hospital acquired infections.

- I have introduced House Bill 2448 to impose an **excise tax on the possession of illegal drugs**. Twenty states have now enacted similar legislation, and I believe it's time for Washington to get on board.

In a hearing on the bill, the point was made that drug dealers won't voluntarily pay an excise tax on illegal drugs. Of course they won't. But when they are arrested they will be required to pay the additional tax besides the other penalties of jail time and fines. In North Carolina, where this law is now in place, it raised \$6 million last year. This money will go toward enhanced drug law enforcement.

- Drug dealers who transfer drugs across state lines or out of the US face drug trafficking charges and extended sentences that law now provides in House Bill 2628;
- House Bill 2629 imposes **enhanced sentences for offenders who drive under the influence** of alcohol or drugs. Any driver who is driving without a license or proof of insurance, reckless driving, speeding in a school zone or driving with an open-container would face an increased sentence including more jail time, extended license suspension and an increased fine.

SEEKING DISCIPLINE REFORM FOR HEALTH PROFESSIONALS

Another concern I am pursuing is the discipline of health professionals who are guilty of unprofessional conduct with their patients (HB 1071). We've heard of a number of cases where health care professionals cross the line of professionalism in dealing with patients under their care.

This bill would give the secretary of the Department of Health and representatives of different health profession boards, commissions and associations to work together to establish a disciplinary process for dealing with offenders. It also allows authorities to revoke the license of anyone with three unrelated significant disciplinary violations that jeopardize the patient's health or public safety.

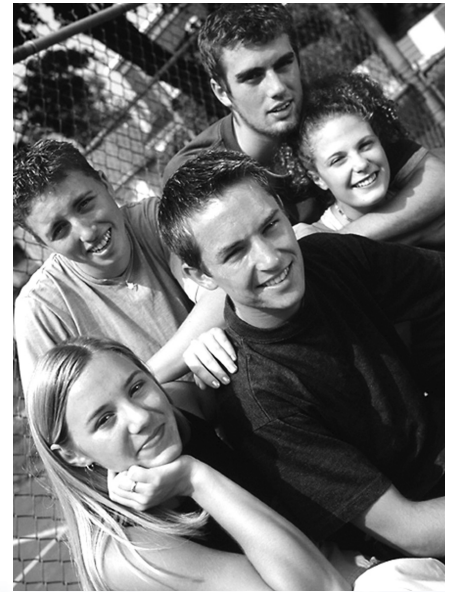
I am also pushing a bill (HB 2431) that would require the Department of Health to conduct a background check on all health care practitioners who seek a state license. This background check would involve the National Practitioner Data Bank and the Health Care Integrity and Protection Data Bank on all license holders every four years.

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YOUTH RESOURCES GROUP HONORS REP. CAMPBELL

It was such an honor for me last summer when the Youth Resources in Spanaway took time to recognize my effort on their behalf last session.

I was so pleased that I was able to obtain \$400,000 for the Youth Resources and Youth Drop-in Center in Spanaway and Parkland. This money goes a long way toward the Youth Resources' effort to raise a million dollars to build the first-ever Homeless Youth Center in Pierce County.



IMPROVED LAW ENFORCEMENT IS GOAL OF DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY BILL

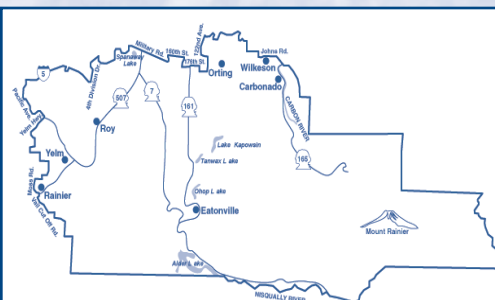
Another focus for me is to reorganize law enforcement at the state level to counteract the growth of crime in our state by providing greater assistance to local jurisdictions and multi-jurisdictions across the state with existing state resources.

I've introduced House Bill 2472 to create a **State Department of Public Safety** to be charged with a major overhaul in the methods of law enforcement. The bill would organize the department into three bureaus, a Washington Bureau of Investigation, the Washington State Patrol and the Bureau of Fire Protections.

The Bureau of Investigation would provide criminal investigative assistance upon request to local law enforcement agencies including criminal and narcotics investigations and forensic laboratory services. It would also create a statewide criminal justice information system to provide assistance to local jurisdictions.

My bill would also revise the focus of the Washington State Patrol functions on traffic law enforcement, collision investigations, motorist assistance and enforcement of the commercial vehicle rules.

Under this new agency, the Fire Protection Bureau would continue to maintain the state's comprehensive state policy regarding fire protection services.



2ND LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT

PLEASE JOIN ME FOR A TOWN HALL MEETING

February 18 - Saturday

Yelm City Hall Council Chambers

105 Yelm Ave., W.

10:00 a.m. – 12 noon

Graham Library

9202 244th St., E

1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Eatonville Library

205 Center St., W

4:00 – 5:00 p.m.



RECAP OF THE 2005 SESSION

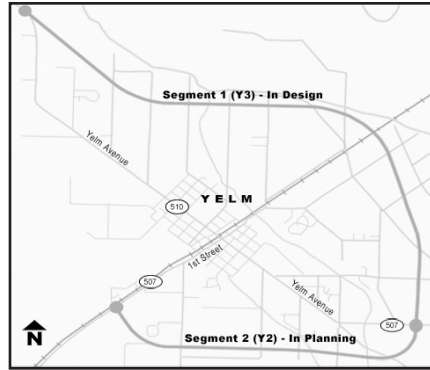
The 2005 session was very successful for the 2nd District. I worked hard for local projects that really deserved state support. Here are a few of the projects I worked on last session that are now moving forward.

TRANSPORTATION

We directed \$133 million for the Cross-Base Highway, the Yelm Loop Road, the Orting Bridge and other projects vital to the district.

CROSS BASE HIGHWAY

We secured \$15 million for the four-lane, six-mile highway across Fort Lewis to connect Interstate-5 at the Thorne Lane interchange all the way to the Mountain Highway (SR 7) via 176th St., S, in Spanaway. Without the new Cross Base Highway, current roads would exceed their capacity by 2025. Construction of this major project is expected to begin in 2007.



YELM LOOP ROAD

Our work in the Transportation Committee resulted in an appropriation of \$33 million to begin the first phase of the four-mile, three-lane Yelm Loop road that will connect State Routes 507 and 510.

ORTING BRIDGE

The 2005-07 Transportation Budget provided \$15 million for the replacement bridge over the Puyallup River (SR 162) at Orting. When the project is completed, the new bridge will bring greatly improved mobility and expanded capacity to SR 162. It will also improve evacuation should we ever suffer a lahar from a Mount Rainier eruption. The existing Orting Bridge will be retained as a walking bridge.

CAPITAL BUDGET

The Capital Budget for 2005 - 2007 includes important 2nd District projects, as well:

- Funding for **The Bridge for Kids**, a foot bridge over the Carbon River in Orting, will provide school kids, as well as all the community, with easy access to higher ground if a volcanic eruption were ever to occur. We were successful in getting \$850,000 in the Capital Budget, along with another \$850,000 in the Transportation Budget.
- \$400,000 for the **Youth Center/Drop-in Center** to serve homeless youth in the Spanaway and Parkland areas.
- \$807,500 for the Eatonville Water Filtration System to remove contaminants from the surface water sources. We got \$50,000 for initial development of **Eatonville State Park**.

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333 John L. O'Brien Bldg.
PO Box 40600
Olympia, WA 98504-0600

REPRESENTATIVE
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